

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

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R 151230Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6198

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 1388

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, SO

SUBJ:SOMALI CHARGE WISHES IMPROVE US-SOMALI RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: IN CONVERSATION WITH ME, SOMALI CHARGE SUGGESTED US TAKE INITIATIVE IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH SOMALI. HE REQUESTS THAT I REPORT HIS DEMARCHE TO DEPT AND OBTAIN REACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING SOMALI CHARGE ABDULLAHI EGAL NUR'S RECENT COURTESY CALL, HE BROUGHT UP SUBJECT US-SOMALI RELATIONS. NUR SAID ON HIS LAST TRIP TO MOGADISCIO HE HAD DISCUSSED THESE RELATIONS WITH PRESIDENT SIAD, EXPRESSING VIEW WHICH MANY HIS COLLEAGUES IN FOREIGN MINISTRY HELD THAT TIME WAS RIPE FOR DEFINITE WARMING OF RELATIONS. WITH VIETNAM SHIPPING ISSUE, WHICH HAD CAUSED CANCELLATION US AID PROGRAM, NO LONGER AN OBSTACLE, THERE WAS, IN HIS OPINION, NO LONGER BARRIER TO RETURN TO NORMALCY IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. NUR FELT GOS WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO INITIATIVES FROM EMBASSY, MOGADISCIO LEADING TO WARMER RELATIONS. WHEN I ASKED NUR WHETHER HE SPEAKING IN PRIVITE

CAPACITY OR AUTHORIZED TO SPEAK FOR GS DR, NUR REPLIED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH THAT HIS DEMARCHE BE REPORTED.

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3. I SAID THAT ALTHOUGH I WAS GENERALLY FAMILIAR WITH RECENT

DEVELOPMENT IN SOMALI-US RELATION THIS WAS NOT MY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND I WOULD HAVE TO CONFINE MY ROLE TO HEARING CHARGE'S VIEWS. I AGREED, HOWEVER, TO REPORT DEMARCHE AND OBTAIN REACTION FROM WASHINGTON.

3. OXDF'S#APPORACH SEEMS ODD WAY FOR SOMALI GOVERNMENT TO GO ABOUT IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH US OR EVEN OBTAINING ATTITUDE OF USG TOWARDS SOMALIA. HOWEVER, WHETHER NUR IS ACTING ON HIS OWN, OR ON BEHALF OF GSDR, I FEEL I SHOULD GIVE HIM SOME SORT OF RESPONSE.

4. COMMENT: NUR HAS REQUESTED ANOTHER APPOINTMENT WITH ME AT WHICH TIME, HE INDICATED, HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS US-GSDR RELATIONS IN GREATER DETAIL. AT THAT TIME, I WOULD BE GLAD EITHER SUGGEST THAT WASHINGTON OR MOGADISCIO IS MORE APPROPRIATE VENUE FOR DISCUSSIONS ON IMPROVING BILATERAL RELATIONS OR TRANSMIT ANY MESSAGE WHICH THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MOGADISCIO MIGHT SUGGEST. IN EITHER CASE, I WOULD APPRECIATE, FOR MY OWN BACKGROUND A CURRENT RUNDOWN ON THE STATE OF US-SOMALI RELATIONS.
AGGREY

NOTE BY OC/: #AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

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